Kebraska State Historical Society

Plattsmouth Journal. Che

VOL. NO. XXXVII.

FIRE CAUSES

DESTRUCTION

WARGA AND OCCUPIED BY

HIS BUSINESS BURNS

OF BUILDING

PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1921.

SUFFERS SCALP WOUND.

While A. F. Braun, former chief of the fire department, was assisting in the work of fighting the fire at the Warga building early Sunday morning he was injured by having a severe scalp wound inflicted. Mr. Braun was struck a blow on the head when an ax which he was using was deflected and as a result it was neces-

in the head and the injured man made as comfortable as possible. Mr. Braun is one of the experienced firemen of the city and while retired

The matter of free city mail deliv- from the department through ser-From Tuesday's Dally. Last evening at 10 o'clock at the Nebraska Masonic Home in this city

occurred the death of Mrs. J. V. D. ity secure one of the privileges of a friends will regret very much to hear Patch, one of the pioneer residents of the state and one whose eventful life had brought her many high hon-

ors in her associations in the work of the busy world in which she had been a prominent figure. OF THE PAST Mrs. Patch had not been well for ome time, but her case was not conidered as dangerous and at the time

of her death she was conversing nurse at the home, and pausing for a moment in her conversation she closed her eyes and had passed into

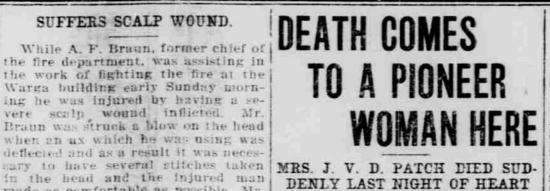
the dreamless sleep of death whose awakening knows no call until the end of time.

Mrs. Patch was a pioneer daugh-McCauley spent a short time in the ter of Nebraska and her life is closeafternoon in following an old time ly interwoven with many of the hiscustom that was once so popular, that toric events of the early days in the of making new year calls on their friends. The calls were much enjoyed but not made with the same degree of hilarity as in the days of

vore as was shown by the following card which the gentlemen found while they were making a call at the home of Mrs. Rebecca Kennedy, and her daughter. Miss Ella, and which card was left in the custody and the father, Judge Reed was honof the gentlemen

This card which was presented on New Year's day 1879, was particularly interesting to Mr. Windham, as he was one of the members who were in the merry party. The Otoe county and one of the members card is headed "Compliments of the of the first legislature of the state

Vulnus Immediacabile Orchestra." and Be Merry." The members of the party were listed as follows:



TROUBLE AT MASONIC HOME

SMALL BLAZE NEW YEARS

The New Year was opened with more than usual excitement at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Peacock on Pearl street, when shortly before 8 o'clock Saturday morning the neighbors discovered that the J. A. Leavitt, Superintendent of Soroof of the Peacock home was ablaze. The alarm was turned in and the truck responded at once, but the prompt and egective work of the From Monday's Datty. neighbors and members of the fam-

work in extinguishing the blaze undoubtedly saved the family from a serious loss as the fire was rapidly gaining headway when discovered.

FIRE DESTROYS A

with Mrs. Lillian Carraher, head Small Fire on Dip Track in West needy and the distressed and in these Yards of the Burlington Causes \$1,000 Loss This Morning.

From Monday s Daily.

erator car that was standing on the are wined out as well as the restoraterritory and state. Pearliette Reed pumping station of the water com- those kho have paid the price to sowas a daughter of Judge and Mrs. pany, in flames. The crew in the ciety for their misdeeds, and to make Edward S. Reed, who came to Ne- yard and the switch engine was hur- society more suited to creating a ried to the scene of action and the higher time of man or woman by wipbraska in 1859, and was born in Oscars which were near the burning ing out the things that leads to crime vego, New York, August 21, 1847. The Reed family on locating in Ne- car were removed to a point of safety, of all kinds. and the refrigerator car which was braska City became actively identiwrapped in flames was left to burn positions that are worthy of the fied with the life of the community out as it was wholly useless to at- thoughtful attention of the people of tempt to save it, the water supply the state in the wiping out of many ored with many offices of honor by being too far away to do any good, of the unhealthy conditions that tend his constituents, being register of The examination made of the car to breed the criminal. One of these

the land office by appointment of President Lincoln, and also for a number of years probate judge of and assisted in laying out the pres-

While the family were residing at the rest of the car. The loss was measures that is urged by Dr. Leacomplete as far as the body of the vitt and his society, as there is not Nebraska City, the daughter joined with the Methodist church and for car was concerned, only the truck not a single state institution where many years was very active in the remaining to indicate that there had these cases can be handled as they church work and for several years ever been a car there. The loss to should be, as they are either taken was head of the Ensworth Deaconess the railroad company will be in the care of in the state insane hospitals hospital at St. Joseph, Missouri. The neighborhood of \$1,000. Owing to or in the feeble minded institutes, ubject of our sketch received her the distance from the city fire lim- where the conditions are far from education in the public schools of its the general alarm was not given. what they should be in caring for

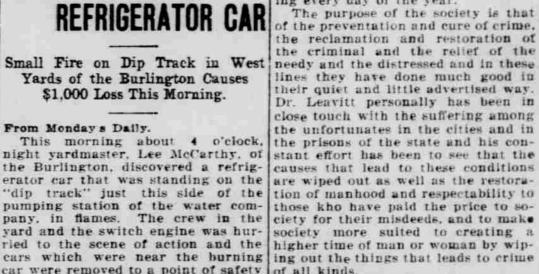


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NO. 98

ciety of Friendless, Visits This City in His Work.

This morning J. D. Leavitt of Omaily had put out the fire with but a ha, superintendent of the Society of very small loss to the building. The the Friendless of the state, was in fire was supposed to have originated Plattsmouth in the interests of his in sparks from the chimney alighting work and of the society which is on the shingle roof. The prompt striving for the betterment of the conditions that causes crime and suffering among the people of the state. Dr. Leavitt has long been connected with this society and his endeavors in his chosen field has brought forth much good among the unfortunates with whom he is working every day of the year.



At this time he has several prowhen the fire was first discovered is a custodial farm for men where indicates that the blaze had been set those who are confined in jail for any by someone, as from the indications extended period can be employed at there had been a fire built in the useful labor and their good qualities interior of the car and this had burn- not entirely lost; the creation of a ed a hole in the floor and spread to farm for epileptics is another of the cases of this kind.

fancy carnival caps as well as the POSTAL DEPARTMENT GIVES AS-STRUCTURE OWNED BY JESS F. streamers of paper and the loads of confetti were in evidence as the carnival spirit was made evident by the jolly crowd. One of the worst fires that has The Holly orchestra was on hand visited the city in many months oc- to dispense the favorite jazzy classics | ery that has frequently been agitated vice, is clways willing to assist in

PASS YEAR OUT MERRILY.

was speeded on in merry fashion Fri-

day evening at Coates hall on the

occasion of the carnival ball given

by the Cosmopolitaan club and from

early in the evening until the pass-

ing of the midnight hour the merry

dancers enjoyed the time in bidding

are well to the passing year. Horns.

The passing of the old year 1920,

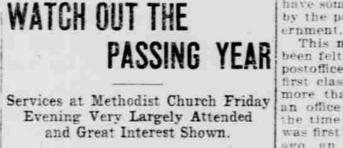
curred early Sunday morning when and the new song hits and were up by the progressive residents of this the fighting of the flames to save the the building owned by Jess F. Warga to their usual high standard and community as a move to have the property of others and his many and located between Fifth and Sixth pleased everyone

streets on Main, was wiped out by the raging flames in a very short Time.

The fire had evidently originated in the rear portion of the second floor of the building which was occupied by John P. Sattler as an undertaking room and when first discovered it had gained great headway. The first intimation of the fire was when Dick Allen, the taxi driver, saw the vast clouds of smoke roll out of the front of the building shortly before 1 o'clock and gave the alarm. In a short time the whole in- church was the scene of a very pleaetrior of the upper floor was a roar- sant New Year's watch party, as has ing furnace of flames which spread been the custom of the church for

The building was one of the oldest on Main street and the structure "Sunnyside", but this year a diverwas very inflamable as it was con- sion was made from this custom and structed entirely of wood and fur- the event held in the church where a nished an easy prey to the eager larger number could be accommofinnes.

dated More or less trouble was experienced at the outbreak of the fire in was devoted to a social gathering and getting the alarm to the shops and in which the members of the party ist here with a view of deciding on the cries of persons seeing the smoke enjoyed themselves immensely in an the matter of free city delivery. Let soon had the fire truck on the scene informal hour. At 10 o'clock the and the members of the fire depart- ladies served a very dainty and en- city as convenient as possible as rement who were on hand attempted to joyable luncheon, consisting of sand- gards sidewalks and means of getting get onto the job as effectively as wiches, cakes and coffee and which over the city for a mail carrier, as possible and to check if possible the came as a delightful climax of the this will be one of the requirements blaze spreading to the adjoining social portion of the program. Folbuildings, as the burning building lowing the luncheon the members of was situated in the middle of the the party adjourned to the main au- in population than Plattsmouth have block and for a time the store of ditorium of the church where the systems of free city delivery and it and their motto given as "Eat, Drink ent city of Lincoln. Weyrich & Hadraba as well as the remainder of the evening was spent.

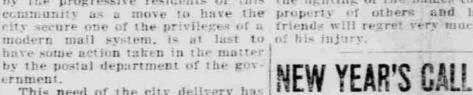


On Friday evening the Methodist rapidly to the lower floor of the the past twenty-five years. The watch building as the second story caved in. | parties have in the past been held at the home of the Wescott family.

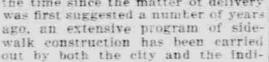
shape The earlier part of the evening will have an inspector visit the city

cems high time that there was a

handling mail is concerned.



This need of the city delivery has een felt in the past few years as the postoffice here has developed into a first class office and the receipts are more than the amount specified for an office that has delivery. During the time since the matter of delivery



CHANCE FOR

CITY DELIVERY

SURANCE THAT CITY WILL

HAVE CLAIMS EXAMINED

HERE IS GOOD

cidual citizens and which now provides a great system of connecting sidewalks. This removes one of the greatest obstacles that stood in the way of city delivery in the first place and at this time the residents of the city should strive to see that their

sidewalks are kept up in first class The postal department has notified Postmaster D. C. Morgan that they and look over the conditions that ex-

the community unite in making the

exacted. Many cities in the state far smaller



Ladies Toggery of F. P. Eusch were The opening portion of this service threatened by the increasing force was in the singing of the old songs of the fire and these sweet melodies of memory

While the fire department was and fond recollection proved a happy able to reach the lower floor with a feature of the occasion. This was stream of water, the second floor, followed by a film lecture, the "Pi where the worst of the fire was lo- neer Trail", in which the life of the HISTORICAL NECKLACE cated, was hard to get at and there early church workers in the west was the flames held full sway and were shown in the moving pictures, in checked only at the front of the cluding Oregon settlement, the pio building. The blaze seemed the worst neer mission in the west and the in the center of the structure and manner in which the cause of the there the floor of the second story church was brought to the western collapsed as the roof fell in, making wilds.

a complete wreck of the building. At the approach of the midnight So far as could be learned there hour the congregation gathered at can be no explanation made as to the pulpit and a concectation service the cause of the fire as the building was held with the serving of the comhad been closed since Friday, owing munion to the members of the to the holiday, and on the second church.

floor where the fire was the worst. there were no stoves or wiring that DEATH OF MRS. P. might have caused a fire.

The loss to the owner of the building will be quite heavy as there was only \$6,000 insurance carried by stock of goods and he had a large amount of high priced electrical equipment and appliances on hand, the greater part of which were entirely wiped out.

Mr. Sattler had a large number of caskets as well as Pathe musical in- Becker died at her home in this city The bag will go with the necklace to struments in stock and these were following an illness of a very short the State Historical society, says all destroyed or so badly damaged as duration, she being taken ill on Sun- Mrs. Harriet MacMurphy to make them a total loss. He has day evening when she suffered what \$1,500 insurance on the stock, but seemed to be a stroke of paralysis this will not near cover the loss. She has been in very serious condi-

The fire raged until nearly 2:60 tion since that time and a specialist o'clock before it was entirely extin- from Omaha was called in consultaguished and as a result the building tion on the case and from the beginnow stands practically gutted and it ning of her attack her recovery ha will require a new structure to re- been a matter of grave doubt. Mrs. Becker was a daughter of Mr

place the burned building. In this fire as at a number of and Mrs. Fred Gruenther, Sr., of thi others that have occurred there, city and has spent practically her enseemed to be a division of authority tire lifetime in this county residing that tended to check the effective- for the greater part of the time on ness of the fire fighters and led to the farm west of this city. Several more or less confusion and delay in months ago the family moved to this getting the full force of the fire city, where they have since made care of her old friend, Mrs. MacMurfighting equipment on the source of their home. To mourn her death, the fire

The fighting of the fire was a very son, John H. Becker, H. seven years strenuous job and the workers were of age. The parents and the followsoaked by the streams of icy cold wa- ing brothers and sisters are also left ter with her only living child, Euter and several had narrow escapes to share the grief that her death has from injury during the height of the caused: Mrs. John Bauer, Sr., Mrs. fire when the roof of the building H. E. Becker, of this city; Mrs. Geo. fell. A. F. Braun was the only one Wallinger of Ashland; Mrs. Jacob town, are expected to attend the reported as seriously injured, he suf- Lohnes of Cedar Creek, and Fred presentation ceremonies in Lincoln. fering from a scalp wound received Gruenther, residing west of Plattsfrom the glancing blow from one of mouth. the hand axes.

The stock of goods in the Ladies Toggery was quite badly damaged by smoke and the lines of high class silks and fine fabrics of many of the ready-to-wear dresse were affected by the thorough smoking and the whole stock suffered a greater or plant and the laundry of the hotel less extent from the effects of the was put through in record breaking smoke. The cellar of the Toggery store as well as that of Weyrich & Hadraba suffered to some extent from the water that forced its way in from the basement of the burned. building

THREE ARE BAPTISED.

From Monday's Dally.

o be laundried. Last evening at the Christian The new plant is located in the church there was received into the basement of the hotel and for the church three members who were giv- first day has been a very busy place the year of 1919. en the sacrament of baptism by the and when the work is fully under nastor, Rev. A. G. Hollowell. The way it will be a great improvement attendance at the service was the to the service of the hotel. As time largest at any evening service for progresses Mr. Wagner expects to gain from 1919, when 142 licenses

T. BECKER TODAY riet S. MacMurphy, of Omaha, will Mr. Warga on the building and his Taken Ill On Sunday and Suffering annual meeting of that organization. From Effects of Paralysis Caused By Rupture of Blood Vessel.

From Tuesday's Daily.

From Monuay's Dally.

The Hotel Wagner today com-

menced the use of their own laundry

This afternoon at 2:45. Mrs. P. T.

Links Three Families

Pattan, a maiden of the Pawnee Indian tribe, seventy-five years ago. In time Emily married Henry Fontenelle of the Omaha Indian tribe. the necklace thus binding together three of the most noted Indian families of the middle west, the Pattans,

there remains the husband and one

gene Fontenelle, at Decatur, Neb. en of Decatur, and long a friend of

NEW LAUNDRY WORKING the state, say her friends.

COURT WORK FOR 1920

district court for the year 1920. Mrs. Beeson were heard in several in 1918, and have since made their time and the result was the finest there was filed 188 civil cases which of their pleasing readings and Mr. home here. The children are Mrs. and whitest of linen from the new plant that Fred Wagner, the proprietor of the hotel has just had installed. The new machinery is to handle all of the regular linen service record breaker in the criminal line of the hotel and is a great money

and convenient when the towels. eems to be for happier matrimonial to be commended and all those in death sheets and table linen were sent out lives among the residents of the the city who are gifted as entertain-| The funeral services will be held community as only 12 decrees of di- ers will find that their kindness is tomorrow afternoon at 1 o'clock vorce were granted as against 25 for very deeply appreciated by the mem- at the Masonic Home and the

forciful and vigorous effort made to Conducter-Prof W. W. Drumsee that this city was placed on the mond. (with a vacum.) map as far as this modern method of Mezzo Soprano-Deahin Bushnell

lad.

of great capacity. Basso Profiunde Prof. 'E. H. Wooley, (with his heart in his stomch.)

Voice a la Trombone -J. E. Morrin. (always hungry. Upper Notes-R. B. Windham, pie warrior.)

In those days there was alway

omething waiting for the merry

new year caller and lunches and re

ENTERTAIN THE OLD

Assist in Pleasant Program.

Beeson, and the program they pre- ciety.

sented wa sone that made a great

holiday season.

A Flat-E. B. Lewis, (with an Mrs. Harriett MacMurphy, Formerly (, biov vid.) of This City to Give Jewel to Double Rests-E. D. Stone, (satis-

State Historical Society.

Solowist-Prof. J. W. Love, (with) yawning abyss.) Presentation of the "Fontenelle" The gentlemen had their price list ecklace, owned for seventy-five printed on the card and which at years by Mrs. Henry Fontenelle that time produced much merrimen pioneer Indian woman, to the Neamong the friends on whom they braska State Historical society, in called. One song was slated at \$2.50 Lincoln, January 11, by Mrs. Harsong with chorus at \$3.50 and the full orchestra at \$6.50, but in most cases e one of the most historic and inthe good things provided by the par teresting features of the forty-fourth ties on whom they called produced the melody without the necessity of The necklace comprises thirteen appealing to the price list.

large rhinestones set in 18-karat gold. It has been kept for years in a quaint beaded bag given to Mrs. Fontenelle by some of her Indian friends especially for this purpose

The necklace was given by Peter A. Sarpy of the famous French and ed to receive any of the old time Indian family to his cousin. Emily cheer, not even home brew.

the Fontenelles and the Sarpys. Mrs. Fontenelle, now about 85 years old, placed the necklace in the Party of Local Entertainers Visit Masonic Home on New Year's Day and

phy, last year, with the understanding that it should go to the Nebras ka State Historical society. Mrs. Fontenelle, spending the win-

and Mrs. Mary Mitchell, a progressive Indian woman from the same Mrs. MacMurphy, a pioneer citi-

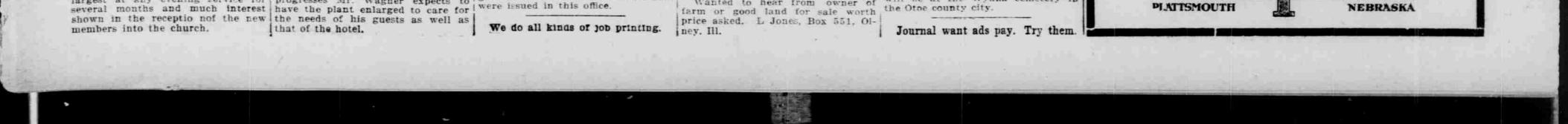
the Fontenelles, probably is better versed in Nebraska Indian lore than any other person in this section of

home. Mrs. Wescott gave a number Mr. Patch being with the wife at the of vocal selections. Mr. Wescott pi- time of her death, they being admit-In the office of the clerk of the ano numbers while Mrs. Baird and ted to the Masonic Home in this city

is a showing of much less litiga- Baird offered a few of the Harry A. F. McKissen of Oakland, Califortion than the previous year when Lauder songs in which he was seen his, and E. R. Patch of Chico, Cali 255 cases were placed on the dock- at his best and which were much en- fornia. et. For the past year there is a joyed.

This kindly spirit shown on the of life in St. Joseph, joined the Connot a single case having been filed. part of the residents of the city to gregational church and was a memsaver as well as much more prompt, In the divorce line the tendency the residents of the home is certainly her of that faith at the time of her

> In the office of County Judge Allen J. Beeson 144 marriage licenses were issued which shows a slight



bers of the big family at the home. body taken on the 2:30 Missouri Pacific to Nebraska City. Rev. H. G. McClusky will have charge of the FARM WANTED. services at this place. The burial

will be at the Wyuka cemetery is Wanted to hear from owner of the Otoe county city.

Nehraska City and also graduated at he Tabor college of Tabor, Iowa. In the year 1862 there arrived at Nebraska City a young man from

the east, an, artist who had been sent west by the Harper's Weekly to make sketches of life on the fron-

tier, and soon between the daughter of the Reed family and this young man, J. V. D. Patch, there sprang the year. The general plan calls for 1912 the society through its pres up a warm friendship that culminall the various phases of literary work, such as readings, essays, deated in the marriage of the young

people on July 4th, 1865, at the home there will be vocal and instrumental of the parents of the bride, Rev. H. solos also. T. Davis, pioneer Methodist minister performing the ceremony that

of the four programs, and from all lized.

indications this coming event will be After the marriage the young peoone of the "red letter" days of their ple resided in the Otoe county city or a number of years, Mr. Patch abandoning temporarily his work as

an artist and entered into the jewpresented and all are looking for a elry business and continued in this very successful and beneficial eveine of work until in 1870, when the family removed to St. Joseph, Mo. ning.

freshments were served in royal hos-The question for debate is resolved. In the Missouri city Mr. Patch won pitality as the calls were a reguli that the literary test restriction on high honors as an artist and the part of the new year's program. Mr. immigration should be repealed." Patch family were numbered among Glenn states to the Journal reporter This question is a popular one and the most distinguished in that city that on their visit yesterday the has been adopted as the question of and Mr. Patch in his work was given took veryone by surprise and while debate in the Nebraska High School the honor of painting portraits of receiving luncheon at the homes failsome of the most distinguished resi-League. To add spice and enthusiasm to this number the seniors have dents of the state and his work is found in a number of the public challenged the juniors as opponents.

will present the negative argument FOLKS NEW YEARS Queen Esther chapter No. 1 of Ne-braska City, founded in 1870, and A small charge

the last female member of the chapter, all having preceded her in death and Mr. Patch is now the sole surviving member. Both Mr. and Mrs. Patch are honorary life members of the St. Joseph chapter of the East-

united their lives.

ern Star. She was also president of

Mrs. Patch had during her year

and will be represented by Gladys uildings of that state. Mrs. Patch was very active during Liston and Fern Noble on the affirm-

her lifetime in the Eastern Star or- ative, while Carl Wurl and John Ptak der and was a charter member of

A small charge of fifteen cent will be charged.

The society has itself done much SENIOR LITERARY. good in securing reforms, particularly in the management and care of This year it is planned to again the occupants of the state prisons. take up literary work in the high It secured the passage of the measure school, following the plan, whereby for the custodial farm for women, the each of the four classes will give a literary program during the course of

court of domestic relation, and the mother's pension law. In the year ident, Judge Lincoln Frost, exposed the conditions at the state penitenbates and short plays. Of course, tiary and also in a number of the county jails over the state and saw that these reforms were carried out The senior class will give the first and the conditions made more civi-

The Society of the Friendless and Dr. Leavitt are certainly deserving school experiences. Nothing has of any aid and support that can be been permitted to interfere with the given them in making for a cleaner preparation of the numbers to be and better standard of society.

COLLAR BONE FRACTURED

While Herbert Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Johnson, of this city, was engaged in riding on the rear of a wagon Friday afternoon, he was thrown off and as the result suffered a fracture of the left collar bone. The injured boy was taken to the office of a surgeon where the injury was looked after and the victim made as comfortable as possible. As the result of the accident Herbert will wear the arm and shoulder in a sling for a number of weeks.

Fine stationery, Journal office.

On New Year's day the residents the social club of the Eastern Star of the Nebraska Masonic Home in for a period of nine years while a this city were given a very pleasant resident of St. Joseph, and was also treat when a party of Plattsmouth's very active in the work of the Wotalented entertainers visited the home man's Relief Corps and was at one and presented a short informal pro- time president of the department of gram that was much enjoyed and Missouri Relief Corps and delegate "Fifty-Fifty" proved a pleasing diversion of the on several occasions to the national encampments. Mrs. Patch was also The party was composed of Mr. a member of the Daughters of the and Mrs. E. H. Wescot, Mr. and Mrs. American Revolution and had been William Baird and Mrs. Allen J. very active in the work of the so-She leaves to mourn her passing impression on the members of the the aged husband and two children.

There are two sides to "Trade-at-Home" agitation.

The merchant has a right to expect the patronage of fellow townsmen. Fellow townsmen have the right to expect honest quality and fair prices from the merchant.

Plattsmouth has no reason to fear outside competition if we will all work together on a fifty-fifty basis.



